

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
3 June 2004 (03.06.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/047375 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H04L 12/44**, [SG/SG]; Blk 213 Bedok South Avenue 1 #02-02, Singapore 469337 (SG).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/SG2002/000268

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(22) International Filing Date:
15 November 2002 (15.11.2002)

(81) Designated States (*national*): CN, KR, US.

(25) Filing Language: English

(84) Designated States (*regional*): European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK, TR).

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Declaration under Rule 4.17:

— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

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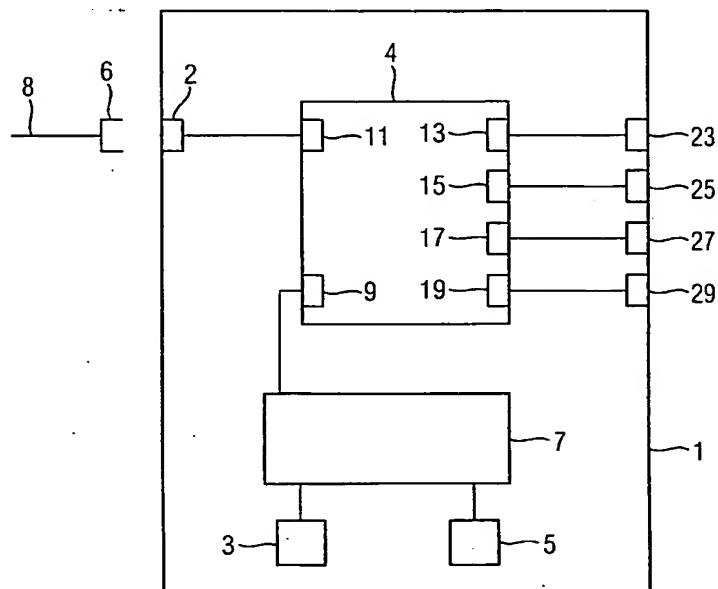
Published:

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— *with international search report*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: REDUCING THE MEMORY REQUIREMENTS OF A DATA SWITCH



(57) Abstract: A data switch (4) is proposed which can be operated such that it generates a MA table of MAC addresses of devices associated with some of its ports (9, 13, 15, 17, 19), but not the MAC addresses associated with one of the ports (11). Packets received by the switch, other than from the port (11), are assumed to be destined for the port (11) and are transmitted via the port (11). If the port (11) is connected to a network, and all the other ports are connected to a relatively small number of devices, such as one device per port, then the memory requirement to store the MA table is dramatically reduced.

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